

13 OCT 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: CIA Librarian *MS*

SUBJECT : Reliability of Published Bloc Statistics

1. There have been several indications that the economic boom within the Sino-Soviet has run into difficulties in certain sectors. The Current Intelligence Weekly Summary for 5 October 1961 mentions slowdowns in China's agriculture, USSR's housing, and Hungary's planned investment. The leveling off in Communist China may be wide-spread.

2. When over-fulfillment of ambitious economic programs was an every day occurrence, Bloc propagandists could present a favorable picture by simply stating the facts. If the facts no longer coincide with the announced goals, there is a new danger of concealment either through selective non-publication or through limitation of distribution. These two devices are sometimes combined by transferring a portion of the responsibility of a publication to another one which has limited distribution.

3. While no sudden change is expected, it seems advisable for procurement officers and users of Bloc publications to be fully alert to the possibility of concealment.

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Chief Reference Librarian